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VI.—*Notes taken on a Journey eastwards from Shiráz to Fessá and Darab, thence westwards by Jehrúm to Kazerún, in 1850.*  
By Consul KEITH E. ABBOTT.

[For Map, see p. 108.]

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Read, February 23, 1857.

I HAVE already, in a previous paper, described the tour which I performed from the town of Kermán to Khubbes, and thence through some of the southern districts of Kermán to Shiráz, the capital of Fars. Wishing to see more of the latter province, I determined on returning eastwards, and accordingly, on the 18th of March, 1850, I quitted the country quarters I had occupied at Ferhadabad, and presently leaving Shiráz behind, proceeded along the plain in the direction indicated in the margin.\* Before leaving Ferhadabad, I took various bearings of objects in the vicinity of Shiráz, which it may be useful to detail, premising that my position was at about 1 mile from the town, on a bearing of  $25^{\circ}$  E.

Dome of Shah Cheragh in the town	..	..	210°
Village, Kaled Mahomed Sherif Khan	..	175	3½ miles distant.
” Mevizabad	..	185	3½ ”
” Kaled Aly Abad	..	175	4½ ”
” Kaled Newab Alieh	..	200	3½ ”

\* Distances and bearings.

½ mile	..	..	155°	1 mile, 150° to 140°, skirting hills on our right.
¾ ”	..	..	165	½ mile .. .. 120°
½ ”	..	..	135	1½ ” .. .. 115
½ ”	..	..	160	1½ ” .. .. 110
¾ ”	..	..	155	2½ ” .. .. E. through hills.
1 ”	..	..	160	2½ ” .. .. 115 and 110°, descend to margin of lake.
Village of U'júwar	½ mile to left,			1 mile .. .. 115°
and Mevurzabad	1½ do. to right.			1½ ” .. .. 110 105° and 80°
¾ mile, 160°, Kaled Mahomed Sherif	about ¾ of a mile to left, and Jasperabad close by.			1½ ” .. .. 105
Narrow tract of Salt Kevvir.				½ ” .. .. 165
1½ mile. Village of Aly Akber Khann	¾ mile to right, and Kúshkh-e-Maydan 1 mile to left; here the Kevvir terminates.			½ ” .. .. 135
1 mile, 145°. Village of Alliabad	1 mile to right.			½ ” .. .. 120 and 115°
½ mile .. .. 175°				½ ” .. .. 145 general bearing.
¾ ” .. .. 130				½ ” .. .. 140
¾ ” .. .. 125	Village Kechi 2 miles to right; Deh Nú bore 165° 2 miles off.			½ ” .. .. 145 and 150°
½ mile, 125°. Reach Púl-e-Fessá, a bridge.				½ ” .. .. 170
				½ ” .. .. 160
				½ ” .. .. 155 to Mohullá.
				22 miles.

Village, Adilabad .. .. .. .. ..	220	3 miles distant.
,, Ahmedabad .. .. .. .. ..	225	3
,, Ahmedabad Bozourk .. .. .. .. ..	245	3
,, Kúshan .. .. .. .. ..	260	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
,, Deh Kúrreh .. .. .. .. ..	270	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
,, Kúshkh Abbass Aly .. .. .. .. ..	280	2
Palace, Takht-e-Kujjerieh .. .. .. .. ..	295	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Garden, Bagh Nari .. .. .. .. ..	220	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
,, Bagh Ehram .. .. .. .. ..	280	2
,, Jehan Nemah and Bagh Nú, both adjoining Ferhadabad.		
Haft Tenn .. .. .. .. .. ..	115	2

The productions of the plain of Shiráz consist of grain—wheat, barley, millet, Indian corn and rice—and cotton, besides a variety of fruits. The villages appear to be almost invariably walled in; some possess gardens, but many of them are almost without a tree.

From Janferabad, at the 4th mile from Shiráz, the road crossed a narrow tract of salt kevvir; and at the 9th mile we passed over the Pál-e-Fessá, a bridge of nine small arches over a trifling stream, which flows from the district of Karabagh, and falls into the neighbouring lake. From thence, in a direction of  $150^\circ$ , we skirted hills, which here commenced on our right; whilst to our left, at about 3-4ths of a mile, rose another parallel range, the intermediate space being a salt kevvir and marsh. At the 12th mile we passed close to Bermashúr, a hamlet, where the land is cultivated, and is perfectly studded with wells, from which water is drawn by bullocks for the irrigation of melon-grounds. As we proceeded, we observed the surface of the country to be swarming with young locusts about 1-5th of an inch in length, and not yet provided with wings. At  $13\frac{1}{2}$  miles we entered a passage through low hills, a shoot from the main range on our right, extending northwards about a mile into the plain, and this led us presently to the border of the salt lake, known as the Deriah-e-Nemek. We proceeded along its margin on a bearing of  $115^\circ$  to a turn in it, which occurred at the  $15\frac{1}{2}$  mile. Looking back, the shore of the lake ran in a direction of  $305^\circ$ —a distance, it was stated, of 2 fursacks, or 7 miles. Its north-western extremity is studded with villages, of which I counted in the distance about 20. I heard the cuckoo's note this day, and observed pewits, starlings, storks, the thrush, called in French "merle à plastron," hooded and common crows, and waterfowl. Clumps of wild myrtle are observed in approaching Mahullú, a village which we reached at the 23rd mile. We find some of my people, who had gone in advance, engaged in an alarming contest of words, and symptoms of a more violent kind, with old women and young, men, children, and dogs,

all of whom appeared to be exerting their lungs in an extraordinary degree; while some were struggling with my servants to prevent their appropriating to my use one of their miserable hovels. The Eel Khani's people, who accompanied me, were dealing gratuitous blows with marvellous little regard for the feelings of the recipients; but this I would not permit any longer, and my arrival seemed at once to pacify the hags of the village. I spoke kindly to them, and assured them I would reward any one who would give me quarters, and an immediate armistice was brought about. The poor people set to work sweeping out several of their hovels for my party; but on learning that their habitations were the abode of legions of vermin, I took up my quarters in the open air.

Mahullú is a poor village, situated at about 3-4ths of a mile from the lake, and, by my reckoning, 22 miles from Shiráz; it possesses some garden-land, a few cypress trees, and some 60 or 70 families.

The villagers stated the length of the lake on this side to be about 5 fursacks; on the opposite side, 6 or 7 fursacks; and its breadth 1 fursack, or  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles. It is very shallow, and appears to be mainly supplied from only two streams—that which we passed this day, and a smaller one on the south-eastern extremity. As, however, these must be insufficient to supply so large a surface as that of the lake, there must be some other source; and the villagers say, that the drainings from the surrounding mountains after rain make up the account. In summer the southern end of the lake, for about 2 fursacks northwards, becomes dry, and covered with a deep deposit of salt, varying from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet in thickness, so that it may then be crossed on foot. The salt is carried for sale to Shiráz and the villages of the plain.

The lake may be said to extend in a general direction N.W. and S.E. It appears from Mahallú (though it is not really so) to be shut in by mountains in all but its northern extremity, where it is bounded by the plain of Shiráz.

We entered the district of Servistan in descending to the lake.

19th March.—From Mahallú we proceeded on a bearing of  $120^\circ$ ,  $155^\circ$ , and  $165^\circ$ ; but my watch having got out of order, I was unable to estimate distances exactly on this march. The south-eastern extremity of the lake runs in a direction of  $120^\circ$ , therefore rendering the north-eastern longer than the south-western side. We crossed one small stream and then left the lake behind us. Our path led us between E. and S.E., through a smooth uncultivated plain, extending in a direction E.S.E. and W.N.W. At the 12th mile we reached a ruinous village called Kheirabad, from whence I took the following bearings:—

Village, Kúyounjoun .. .. ..	235°	3 miles distant.
” Púlekelunter (ruined) .. ..	240	3
” Beit-úl-Allahí .. ..	255	5
” Khosrúabad .. ..	145	1½

This appears to be a very thinly-inhabited plain, and very little cultivated, but the district contains 23 villages. Flocks of sheep and goats, almost all black and brown, as most of the flocks of this province would appear to be, were almost the only noticeable objects.

From the above-named village we proceeded in a direction generally a little s. of e., immediately passing Kennú, a village to our right, thence to Ketta Gúmbez, another village; and by a course a little n. of e., passing Rebat a mile to our left, we reached Búrzú, called also Servistan, the chief village of the district, situated at 7 fursacks, or  $24\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Mahullú, and containing, it was said, 800 families. The heat had been very oppressive during this march, and we were evidently approaching a warmer region than that of Shiráz. Búrzú is embosomed in gardens and orchards, producing a variety of fruits: many of the trees were in blossom, others covered with the brightest green.

Immediately south of this village is another large one, called Tezing, said to contain 600 families, likewise embosomed in orchards; but only two or three other villages of this plain seem to possess gardens and groves.

The inhabitants stated that their fields having last year been ravaged by the locusts, they had laid very little land under cultivation this season. They endeavour to destroy the insects by digging trenches, driving them in, and throwing earth on them—a remedy which can, of course, be carried only to a limited extent.

Salt and sulphur, both stated to be the deposits from springs of water, are found in this district.

*20th March.*—Our direction from Búrzú was s.e., and presently  $115^{\circ}$  over a fine carpet of grass mixed with tufts of the green tragacanth plant, which covers this end of the plain. At about the 4th mile we reached a country of low hills and ravines, clothed with tufts and bushes, and a sprinkling of trees chiefly of the benneh. The wild-almond bush grows also abundantly, and was in full bloom: it bears a white, scented blossom. The stem and principal branches are of a very dark colour, and from them spring innumerable small twigs—straight, and of a pale green at all seasons.

At the 6th mile we passed two unoccupied watch-towers, and from thence our direction varied between  $80^{\circ}$  and  $125^{\circ}$  by rises and falls; after which we commenced an easy, but long descent over stony ground, generally in a direction s.e., the country and moun-

tains on both sides lightly clothed as before. At about the 12th mile we alighted near the ruins of a caravansary, at a stream of water, and here I shot a hare of a small species found in these parts ; it did not exceed in length two short spans, from nose to tail. After breakfasting we continued the descent, on a bearing of  $115^{\circ}$  and  $110^{\circ}$ , and, at the 14th mile,  $105^{\circ}$ . We passed many flocks of mixed sheep and goats, belonging chiefly to the Baharlú tribe, of which we observed small encampments scattered over the country. One of my attendants stated that this tribe numbers 2000 families. We passed two other ruined caravansaries, proceeding, first, by a gradual ascent in a direction s.e. for a few miles, and then, by an easy descent by a rough road, still on the same general bearing, and, as we neared the plain of Fessá, meeting more flocks, followed by divisions of the Baharlú tribe, migrating to higher ground. Their beasts of burthen consisted almost entirely of asses. On getting fairly into the plain of Fessá, we proceeded on a bearing of  $110^{\circ}$ , and were presently met by a party of horsemen, headed by a relation of the governor, sent out to welcome me. Some of them were excellent riders, and exhibited their skill by turning in their saddles whilst at full speed, and firing at objects on the opposite flanks of their horses—a feat which I fancy it would be impossible to accomplish on a European saddle. We reached Fessá, after performing what is called 11 fursacks, or  $38\frac{1}{2}$  miles, but which, I think, does not exceed 9 fursacks, or  $31\frac{1}{2}$  miles. The plain extends in length e. and w., and may be about 7 miles in breadth. Fessá itself, which is merely a large village of some 900 families, with a detached mud fort and some pleasant gardens, stands in the midst of it towards its western extremity. The land belongs chiefly to the Governor Mirza Mahomed and his relations, by whose family the government of the district has been held for ages past. On alighting, I was most courteously and kindly received by Mirza Mahomed, who proved to be an old acquaintance of many of my countrymen who have resided in Persia. He spoke particularly of Sir John M'Neil, Sir Henry Bethune, Colonel Shee, Mr. Bruce and his suite ; and he mentioned Lieut. Wyburd, as having resided at Fessá with him for more than a year, and of his being accompanied by a doctor, who died there.

I inquired in vain for any building near Fessá which might answer to the description of the tomb of Cyrus, this district being supposed by some antiquarians to represent the ancient Passagarda. A tomb exists near the village Meymúni, but the description given of it by a native of the place convinced me it could not be what I sought for.

The period of my visit was the second year in which the locusts had ravaged this district ; we saw swarms of them, and people were daily employed in destroying them in the manner I have

already described. I had difficulty in procuring grain for my horses; and in some parts of the country, such was the distress, that the people were obliged to resort to the miserable alternative of feeding on the insect. The locust is described as being of two kinds; the Deriai or sea, and the Missri or Egyptian locust. The former are least destructive to the fields, but do great damage to the trees. I collected many particulars regarding these insects, but as they frequently appeared to me fanciful, and not really the result of observation or investigation, I omit them here. Laristan is the country from which it is supposed they generally proceed.

The district of Fessá extends E. and w. about 45 miles, and varies in breadth from 9 to 15 miles. Its villages and hamlets amount in number to 33; and its productions are chiefly barley and wheat (the former in ear on the 21st March); 5 to 12-fold is the ordinary yield. Indian corn, millet, sessamè-seed; and tobacco, cotton, and rice, are produced in small quantities. The country is, generally speaking, Ghermsir, or warm region, but cooler than Darab. The plain has a dreary deserted appearance, and the mountains around arid, and with few traces of vegetation.

Near the fort a mound is shown, which is said to mark the spot where Felamerz, the son of Rústum, was defeated by Behram. The latter caused him to be hanged, and his tomb formerly existed in the village, until, it is said, a European traveller carried off the slab as a relic.

On the 22nd March I quitted Fessá, after a friendly greeting from the Governor, whose kindness and courtesy I shall long remember. We proceeded at once towards the Kaleh Zohauk, situated at 2 miles south of Fessá: the site is a high, artificial mound of soft earth, surrounded at some distance by the remains of a broad ditch. The area within is strewn with stones and fragments of brick and pottery, and is now partly under cultivation. To the s.e. and s. low mounds of earth, stones, and bricks, show that the town extended beyond the ditch in that direction. The place is reputed to have been the residence of Zohauk, a prince in whose history much Persian fable has been introduced; but I could learn no further particulars of its previous annals. From the mound I obtained the following bearings:—

Fort of Fessá	..	..	..	330°	1½ miles distant.
Village of Fessá	..	..	..	335	2
” Benian	..	..	..	345	2½
” Kehnakú	..	..	..	5	2
” Desht Ahmed	..	..	..	15	¾
” Kheirabad	..	..	..	45	½
” Kúshkh-e-Kazin	..	..	..	30	1½
” Deh Desteh	..	..	..	170	1
” Harúm	..	..	..	95	2

Village of Sehrarúd .. ..	135°	3 miles distant.
“ Mahomedabad .. ..	125	3½ “
“ Chuggat .. ..	270	2 “

Mountain of Sallú, at the foot of which rises a spring depositing salt, 305°, 4 miles distant.

From the mound our path led, for about 1 mile, in a direction s.e., when it altered to 125° for  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile, and we then passed Deh Desteh, situated close by to our right. This village possesses a few date trees in common with others of the plain: thence the bearings were as follows:—

1½ mile S.E.		
½ “	125°	
1½ “	105° and 115°	

to Súdabad, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile beyond to Mahomedabad, two villages, the latter of which, situated on the southern side of the plain, and possessing a large detached garden and vineyard; a pleasant spot, planted with cypress and forest trees, rose-bushes, &c., where we alighted to breakfast, putting to flight a crowd of women who had congregated there. Between the two villages is the bed of a stream, then dry, the direction of which is from N.W. to s.e.

From thence we rode  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile, on a bearing of 65°, and presently perceived the surface of the ground quite darkened with young locusts about  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch in length, but still without wings.

Thence our bearings were—

E. ..	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile.		
100° ..	$\frac{1}{2}$	“ to Gheasabad.	
85 ..	$\frac{3}{4}$	“	
105 ..	$\frac{1}{2}$	“	
95 ..	1	“ to the large village fort of Núbundegran, passing through which we proceeded $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile on a bearing of 75°.	
55 ..	$\frac{1}{8}$	“	
65 ..	$\frac{1}{3}$	“	
80 ..	$\frac{1}{4}$	“	
65 ..	$\frac{1}{4}$	“	
75 ..	2	“ to village of Ghillian.	
55 ..	1	“ to foot of hills through which we passed on a bearing of 50°, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile.	
		“ 30°, $\frac{1}{2}$ “	

Rain, which was greatly needed in those parts, here commenced falling, and lasted during the remainder of the day. Thence  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile on a bearing of 45° amongst hills; crossed little stream flowing s.w.; then 1 mile 60° and 50° to small village fort of Múrdi; after which, by gentle descent, 35°  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile, 50°  $\frac{1}{4}$  a mile, and 60°  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile, into a valley; 1½ mile 90° and 80°;

1 mile  $65^{\circ}$  and  $70^{\circ}$ , the valley expanding into a plain; then 2 miles in general direction,  $60^{\circ}$  to the village Shish Deh, where nearly all the male inhabitants turned out to meet me. The distance by the direct road from Fessá is reckoned at 6 fursacks, or 21 miles; by visiting the Kaleh Zohauk we added something to it, as by my estimate we travelled 23 miles.

The plain of Shish Deh is shut in by high hills and mountains, and is well cultivated in parts. It extends from w. to e. and s.e., and is of inconsiderable breadth. The village Hussimabad is at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile distant to the s.e. My kind friend of Fessá had determined his attentions should not cease on my quitting his village, and I found at Shish Deh everything prepared for me by his directions.

23rd March.—Our march this day commenced on the following bearings:—

$1\frac{1}{4}$  mile,  $110^{\circ}$  and  $120^{\circ}$   
 $\frac{3}{4}$  "  $75^{\circ}$ ,

to an encampment of 35 tents of the Karúni, a division of the Aynarlú, a tribe said to number 2000 families in some 30 divisions.

$\frac{1}{4}$  mile E.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  "  $70^{\circ}$

to a ruined village; here discovering that we were on the wrong road, we proceeded—

$\frac{1}{4}$  mile,  $150^{\circ}$   
 $\frac{1}{8}$  "  $45$   
 $2$  "  $140$

when, having regained the proper route, we proceeded—

$\frac{1}{2}$  mile,  $135^{\circ}$   
 $1\frac{1}{4}$  "  $125^{\circ}$   
 $1$  "  $100^{\circ}$  and  $90^{\circ}$   
 $\frac{1}{3}$  "  $115^{\circ}$   
 $\frac{3}{4}$  " between  $115^{\circ}$  and  $130^{\circ}$   
 $1$  "  $135^{\circ}$ ,  $120$ , and  $125^{\circ}$   
 $\frac{1}{2}$  "  $130^{\circ}$   
 $\frac{1}{2}$  "  $140^{\circ}$

to another encampment of the Karúnis. The tents of Eeliats in Persia are generally of one description, made from black goat's-hair sacking, supported on poles. I alighted at this encampment to allow of my baggage joining from the rear, lest the inhabitants of the tents should take a fancy to it. The people were civil enough, but many of them had collected with clubs armed with heavy knobs, usually carried by the men of the tribes.

We proceeded on a bearing of  $145^{\circ}$  for  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile, passing the

site of a town, the only remains of which consisted of the foundations of walls, and stones strewn plentifully over it. It is known as Karabúlak ; and at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile north-west of it, the highest part of a range of mountains is said to possess the remains of a castle known as the Kaleh Mallek-e-Shehriar. We then made  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of a mile in a direction  $140^\circ$  to the small village fort of Darakú, surrounded by a ditch of water, where I again found myself indebted for a breakfast to my kind friend at Fessá. Leaving Darakú, we proceeded  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of a mile on a bearing of  $130^\circ$ , when the plain terminated in an uneven valley, in which the benneh-tree, then in leaf, abounds. The young leaf has a resinous, aromatic odour. We made  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of a mile in a direction of  $100^\circ$ , then  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile by a very difficult road, and through a narrow defile, in a direction between E. and N.E., occasionally by short abrupt turns, after which we ascended the hill side on to a better road leading  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile between E. and S.E., which brought us in sight of the plain of Darab. Thence occurred a short, but difficult and dangerous, descent ; then  $\frac{1}{8}$ th mile  $260^\circ$ , and varying from  $160^\circ$  to  $90^\circ$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile, by an infamous road, where fossil shells and impressions of the same are found. There is a belief that this part of the country was once covered by the sea. Then  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile, from  $120^\circ$  to  $110^\circ$ , which brought us fairly into the plain ;  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile,  $110^\circ$ , near high and bold mountains to our left. The plain extends nearly E. and W., and on its northern side is extremely stony, and abounds with the kúnar-tree and gum-tragacanth plant. The southern side appears to be destitute of trees. Proceeding 1 mile on a bearing of  $85^\circ$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile  $105^\circ$ , and  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile  $90^\circ$ , we came to more remains of stone buildings covering a considerable space, but only the foundations remain. A good deal of fine turf grows in this part, and a bush with an aromatic leaf, and resembling that of the pepper-tree. Two miles further were made in a direction of  $105^\circ$ , and 2 miles E. We crossed four small streams flowing into the plain from the N.E. ; and, quitting for a time the wooded part, proceeded for  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of a mile S.E., passing more and extensive traces of stone habitations, evidently like those already noticed marking the sites of former towns. Here mountains project into the plain from the N., and one of rock-salt is conspicuous from its variety of colouring. At the foot of this mountain issues a diminutive spring of water, which leaves along its course a beautiful incrustation of salt.

Three-fourths of a mile further, on a bearing of  $110^\circ$ , brought us to a small stream, 20 paces wide, flowing S., and immediately afterwards to a second. One or two villages, with tall palm-trees, were observed, after which our course led through low jungle of prickly bushes which shelter the Francolin. We made 3 miles further on the above bearing, then E. for 4 or 5 miles, passing in

this space low hills projecting into the plain, when, long after nightfall, we reached some hovels. Again we proceeded for about a mile, and reached the outskirts of Darab, that is, its palm-groves, through which we passed for another mile or more, much wearied with the length of the journey and heat of the weather. The distance from Shish Deh is nominally 10 fursacks, or 35 miles, which is probably correct.

As we approached Darab the air was fragrant with the delicious odour of orange and lemon blossoms from its many groves and gardens. In the absence of the governor Jehanghir Khan, a son of my friend the Eel Khani of Fars, I was most courteously and handsomely entertained by direction of the princess his wife, a sister of the late Mahomed Shah.

Darab, or Darabjerd, an ancient site, is fallen from its former consequence, and is now a mere cassabeh or large village, occupying, with its gardens and groves of orange, lemon, and palm-trees, a very considerable space. The mountains on the north of it form an amphitheatre, the deepest part of which is about a mile from the town, which extends towards the two horns of the crescent. To the south rises at a short distance a long line of rocks which at one part are sculptured on their southern face, and between them and the houses of the place is situated a small mud fort of no pretensions. The place possesses no elevated ground, and is in this respect wanting in the picturesque; but viewed from a house-top the scene is very pleasing, so great is the extent of the foliage, which, at the time of my visit, was of the most beautiful green. The palm or date-trees scattered over so wide a space are numerous, but generally planted wide apart. The people appear to have neglected the cultivation of this valuable tree for some time past at Darab. It is affirmed that 50 years since the number of date-trees was 100,000, of which only 30,000 remain. They are taxed according to their bearing. Offsets from them, when transplanted, become, in the course of some years, a source of wealth to their owners.

Darab possesses no bazaars, but only a few shops, of which six are of linen-drapers, dealing in English manufactures.

The climate of the district is oppressively warm in the plain during the summer months. In winter snow is rarely seen there. The climate of the hills, of course, varies with the elevations. We found the flies most troublesome, but they are said to diminish in numbers with the approach of great heat.

The productions of the district are wheat and barley, zohret seffeid (a species of millet), rice, tobacco, sesamè-seed, and cotton; but every where there was scarcity, this being the seventh year of the visitation of the locusts, each year proving more disastrous than the preceding. The peasantry were reduced to the utmost

distress—to devouring the locusts, and to the use of wild herbs. The revenue raised is 14,000 tomans (6300*l.*), amongst a fixed population of 2300 families belonging to this district. The soil is reputed of great fertility in many parts when rain falls in sufficient quantity; grain yields from ten to fifty fold. The hills on the southern side of the plain having no water are, I believe, uninhabited. I heard of no mines at present worked in this part of the country, but old iron mines are said to exist at Shekkarú. The district possesses plenty of flocks and herds. Of the former, which are usually black and brown, or reddish, as in other parts of Fars, goats are more numerous than sheep. The extent of the district is 14 fursacks, w. to e., and 6 from n. to s.

In the neighbourhood of Darab the objects pointed out as worthy of attention are the following:—

The Kalah Darab, consisting of a mud rampart 35 or 40 feet in height, encircling an isolated rock, from which it is distant some 800 paces. The rock itself is situated in the plain, at about 4 miles from Darab, on a bearing of s.w. The ramparts appear to have been flanked at short intervals by earthen towers, and a broad ditch, at present partly filled with water and reeds, in which wild-fowl lodge, encircles them. On the n.e. an aqueduct has been carried across the ditch, and has consisted of substantially arched masonry, of which only some remains are now seen. This extended some way into the plain, and a watercourse of masonry is continued from it within the rampart towards the rock. There is no sculpture found here. The area within the ramparts is strewn with remnants of large bricks, pottery, and stone. The rock itself has been crowned with buildings, and a well has been sunk from its summit. It is said this place was destroyed by the troops of Omer.

From the rock I took the following bearings:—

Village Janisi, adjoining the Kalah Darab, 34°

Town of Darab, 40°

Hills south of Darab, stretching from 25° to 35° } These two ranges lie in a  
40°, 90° } line from w.n.w. to e.s.e.

Village Shahnún .. .. .. .. ..	40°	2½ miles distant.
” Kayimabad .. .. .. .. ..	85	2½ ”
” Zergheran .. .. .. .. ..	110	1½ ”
” Banúch .. .. .. .. ..	135	2 ”
” Berghan .. .. .. .. ..	325	2 ”
” Bakhtegherd .. .. .. .. ..	320	3 ”
” Shemshabad .. .. .. .. ..	315	2½ ”
” Tizab .. .. .. .. ..	300	3 ”
” Berab .. .. .. .. ..	295	3½ ”
” Dehekestan .. .. .. .. ..	275	5 ”
” Múbarekabad .. .. .. .. ..	260	3 ”
” Dowletabad .. .. .. .. ..	260	10 ”
” Kara Kaj .. .. .. .. ..	250	5 ”

Village Nussrawan .. .. .. ..	245°	4 miles distant.
"    Búrj Diringhaneh .. .. .. ..	244	8
"    Shahijan .. .. .. ..	230	2½
"    Júrzjan .. .. .. ..	250	1½
"    Biadeh .. .. .. ..	218	½
"    Herbadan .. .. .. ..	215	2½
"    Dermenjan .. .. .. ..	188	1
"    Khúngab .. .. .. ..	165	2
"    Deh Kheir, Pain .. .. .. ..	100	10
"    Balla .. .. .. ..	95	10
"    Siahan .. .. .. ..	68	3
"    Deveran, not visible but close to Siahan.		"
The Kúh-e-Nemuk, or Mountain of Salt ..	318	5
The Kúh-e-Múmiai .. .. .. ..	235	10
The ancient sculptures .. .. .. ..	65	3½

The villages of the plain are generally small and poor, and are said to contain in all only 1000 families. Those of the hills are finer, but few in number. In all the district the villages and hamlets amount to about 64.

The sculptured rocks, called by the Persians the Nakhsh-e-Rustum, are the next curiosity I visited. A large tablet of figures is sculptured on the face of the rock, executed with great care and beauty, and have been supposed to represent Shahpúr and the captive emperor Valerian; but there are two captives who seem to be presented to the sovereign by a Persian. The king is mounted on a charger, which steps over a prostrate body; his face has been a good deal injured, but he wears a high globe on his head, and has royal flamers; his left arm is extended towards a figure apparently of a Roman, on whose head (slightly inclined) he rests his hand in an encouraging manner; with his right hand he holds something like a sceptre. A second figure, dressed also like a Roman, with bare head and short hair, advances towards the right side of the horse, extending his hands as in supplication. This figure is seen in its whole length, whilst only the upper part of the other one, just described, is visible. Behind the two stands a Persian with flowing robes and long hair or a wig. The rest of the figures on that side of the tablet, amounting to about 27, have high Roman noses, bare heads, and short hair. In the corner a horse and the wheel of a chariot are observed.

Behind the king are 16 figures—some in wigs, some in high and peculiar head-dresses, the summit of each projecting in front so as to resemble the crest of a helmet at a distance; others have straight, high head-dresses, rounded at the top, and one of these last appears to be holding the king's horse by the tail; some of these figures wear anklets. The whole of this group is of colossal size. At the foot of the tablet is a copious spring of very clear water, which forms a deep pool abounding with fish. These sculptures, I

believe, have been described by Christie, but I have never seen his work.

Skirting the hills from thence in a direction nearly s.e., we came to what the people termed a caravansarai, excavated in the solid rock, and situated at about 3 miles from the town. It appeared to me to have been intended for a mosque, the mehrab or niche, to denote the direction of the kebleh, being in its proper position. Over the entrance are some ancient Arabic characters much defaced, and around the mehrab similar writing. The interior is a square with a passage round three sides of it, and the four corners occupied by rock cut into passages which leave nine square columns in each. The rock has been neatly excavated, and the place overlooks the site of the ancient town called Shehr Jennet, which was situated about a mile to the s.e., but of which I could perceive no remains.

The Bagh Eram is the site of an ancient place, situated at some 4 fursacks from Darab to the e. or s.e., which I did not visit; there does not appear to be anything in the shape of a building remaining there.

From Darab to Jehrúm are ..	18 fursacks	=	63 miles.
",	Bundi Abassi ..	62	= 217 "
",	Eej ..	8	= 28 "
",	Istahvonat ..	12	= 42 "
",	Neyriz ..	12 or 13	= 42 to 45.

26th March.—From Darab I proceeded towards Jehrúm; our first stage was made as follows:—

1½ mile W.			
½",	245°		
¼",	265		
½",	235		
¼",	252		
½",	235		
¾",	245		
½",	260	to village Berghan.	
½",	220		
¼",	230		
1",	220		
3",	250	to village Dehekestan.	
1",	"	to ruinous bridge over small but deep stream flowing from the N.	
2",	290		
¾",	285		
½",	295		
½",	297		
¾",	320	to village Kiassi,	

where no provender for our cattle being procurable, we passed onwards ¾ a mile on a bearing of 310°, ½th mile 295°, and 2 miles

335°, to the village Madaoun, from whence Darab bears due E., 4½ fursacks distant. At both these last villages the extremes of poverty met the eye. Much of the plain is covered with fine turf on this side; the heat very great.

On the 27th March I proceeded on the bearings given in the margin,\* immediately passing through low rocky hills into a small plain clothed with tufts and bushes; some of the latter bear a long pink globe with a small flower at the extremity, which indeed is observed in many parts of the Ghermsir. Subsequently we entered amongst low hills by a bad road, leading in a general direction of 295°; a scattering of the benneh-tree and swarms of locusts were the only objects to notice. We then entered upon a more open country, and again traversed a tract where fossil-shells are found. Subsequently the road led through ravines, which brought us into a fine plain belonging to the district of Fessá, extending in length some 15 miles from N.W. to S.E., by about 5 miles in breadth; it is covered with fine turf and tufts, in which the sand-grouse greatly abound at this season. We finally reached Nussirabad, outside which we found the tents of the governor of Darab, Jehanghur Khan, who presently called on me, and we discussed together some roasted francolins which he brought with him.

This village possesses, in common with others of the plain, some palm-trees. I took the following bearings from it:—

Village Mian Deh ..	330°	2 miles distant.
„ Zahidan ..	315 4	
„ Kharinjan ..	330 6	„ not visible, but its position pointed out.

\* Distances and bearings.

½ mile .. ..	245°	½ mile .. ..	290
¼ „ .. ..	235 to low rocky hills, and through thence into small plain by slight ascent.	½ „ .. ..	270
¼ „ .. ..	260°	½ „ .. ..	280
7 „ .. ..	275 when we quitted plain, and passed amongst low hills.	¾ „ .. ..	270
¾ „ .. ..	260	¾ „ .. ..	290
1 „ .. ..	270	1½ „ .. ..	250 by descent.
½ „ .. ..	235 across a plain.	1½ „ .. ..	240
1½ „ .. ..	240 by gentle ascent.	¾ „ .. ..	210 through ravines.
¾ „ .. ..	270	½ „ .. ..	220
½ „ .. ..	255	½ „ .. ..	240
2 „ .. ..	265	½ „ .. ..	200
½ „ .. ..	250	¾ „ .. ..	250 reach fine plain.
1 „ .. ..	255 over low hills, in which fossil shells occur.	2 „ .. ..	240
¾ „ .. ..	265° over open country.	2½ „ .. ..	250 to village of Nussir- abad.
½ „ .. ..	260		—
		28½ miles.	
		The distance, however, is called only 7 fursacks. We found no water on the road during this march.	

Village Kúshkh .. 10 5 miles distant, belonging to Jehrúm.

Direction of Jehrúm, as pointed out,  $215^{\circ}$ .

Káley Terrere Padshah, ruins on a high mountain apparently almost inaccessible,  $155^{\circ}$ , 10 miles distant.

Kaleh Kafer,  $260^{\circ}$ ,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile distant, a few remains at foot of hills.

Fessá is 15 fursacks from Nussirabad.

*28th March.*—Yesterday five or six mounted plunderers of the Baharlù tribe made a foray on the neighbouring village of Kúshkh and drove off 50 head of cattle. The villagers made their complaint to the governor, who sent a party of horsemen in pursuit, which, coming up with the plunderers, killed two of them, recaptured the cattle, and took from the culprits all they could lay hands on. The pursuers had a blood-feud with the plunderers, which accounts for their having killed two of them.

We proceeded from Nussirabad\* and crossed low hills extending into the plain from the west, and entered the district of Jehrúm. At the 4th mile we passed the village fort Kúshkh, and at the 7th rounded the hills to our right, and, quitting this corner of the plain, entered a broad valley. The 8th mile brought us past the small village Kamshi, and,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile beyond, to the ruins of the village Chehar Tagh, where there is a pretty grove of palm, pomegranate, and fig-trees, under the shade of which we breakfasted. On a neighbouring height is seen an old domed building in the

\* Distances and bearings.

$\frac{3}{4}$ mile .. .. 190°	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile .. .. 260 to broad dry bed of stream, called Rúd Khanéh Shúr, flowing from N.W. to S.E. at certain seasons only.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 225	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile .. .. 265°
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 180	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 250
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 190 across low ridge of hills extending into plain from w.	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 285
Enter district of Jehrúm.	$\frac{3}{4}$ " .. .. 295
$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. .. 195°	1 " .. .. 265
2 " .. .. 190 to near village of Kúshkh.	1 " .. .. 250
$2\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. .. 195°	$\frac{3}{4}$ " .. .. 245
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 210 enter broad valley.	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 240
1 " .. .. 235 past village Kamshi.	4 " .. .. 225
$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 250	1 " .. .. 200
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 270 to ruins of village Chihar Tagh.	1 " .. .. 215 and pass village of Hyderabad.
$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. .. 275°	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile .. .. 215°
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 270	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 195
$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 260 enter another plain.	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 220
$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 265	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 205
$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 250 to Bab Arab.	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 210
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 270	2 " .. .. 220
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 265	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 225
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 277	$1\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 245 to Jehrúm.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 260	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 270	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 250	

29<sup>3</sup> miles.

style of a tomb. After this the valley expanded, and we entered another plain, and, at the  $10\frac{1}{2}$  mile, reached Bab Arab, a rather pretty village. The eastern half of this plain is uneven, and of extremely stony and unprofitable land; the length is from E. to W. The 25th mile brought us near the village Hyderabad, and thence  $4\frac{3}{4}$  miles to Jehrúm. Distance reckoned at 8 fursacks, or 28 miles. My reckoning gave  $29\frac{1}{4}$  miles.

The land around Jehrúm is principally irrigated with water drawn from wells by bullocks, with which the plain is everywhere dotted. The scarcity of running water is extreme. The town consists of a walled fort of great length, and in good condition, situated near rocky mountains, which lie on the S.E. of it, and extend in a direction about E. and W. The situation, as marked in Arrowsmith's Map, is evidently much too far to the S. relatively to Fessá and Darab. I was here most hospitably received and entertained by Hadji Aly Naghi Khan, the brother of the governor, then absent. The town is said to contain within and without the walls 3000 families. The walls are of recent construction, and are about 3 miles in circumference; but there are more houses outside than inside them. Many of the habitations possess turreted towers as places of defence. The people appeared to be a civil race.

This is the principal mart for tobacco, which is brought here from all the surrounding districts, and disposed of to traders, who distribute it over the country far and near. These traders are numerous, and many established here are wealthy; they usually transact their business in their private houses, without resorting to the caravansaries, of which there are six in the place. A merchant gave me the following rough estimate of the produce of tobacco in some of the neighbouring districts:—

	Muns of Gabbassi = 720 miscals.	Prices.
Laristan .. .. .. .. ..	Keran	1s. to 1s. 10d. per mun.
Joyoum and Bidshehr .. 50,000 ..	„	1s. for Joyoum.
„	„	1s. 10d. for Bidshehr.
Ala merdesht .. .. .. 65,000 ..	„	1s. per mun.
Kir and Kazin .. .. .. 25,000 ..	„	10d. per mun.
Gheledar and Assir .. 50,000 ..	„	1s. per mun.
Lazher Mekan, Afzer, and Kowreh .. .. .. 50,000 ..	„	1s. 10d. per mun.
Jehrúm .. .. .. 30,000 ..	„	1s. to 1s. 5d. per mun.

The other articles of native produce which enter into the trade of the place are dates and rice of Kir and Kazin. The former are worth at Jehrúm Kerum 9s. to 14s. for 25 muns. The rice, of which there may be 150,000 muns, sells at 1s. for 2 muns.

Some 30,000 to 40,000 tomans worth of English cottons, imported from Tehran, are disposed of annually at Jehrúm. There

are 30 dealers in these goods here. Groceries, spices, and cotton manufactures are brought from India by Bunder Abbassi, Assalú, and Bushir.

Grapes, dates, water-melons, pomegranates, figs, plums, apples, and fruits of the orange and lemon species, grow here abundantly; the first named are very excellent, and sell at the ridiculously low price of 1 shaki (a halfpenny) for 720 miscals, or about 7 lbs. A considerable quantity of raisins is exported to India.

Barley and wheat are not produced in this district in sufficient quantity for the consumption, in consequence of the scarcity of water. There is a salt-mine a fursack distant to the west.

The district of Jehrúm measures about 8 fursacks by 4, and contains 18 villages.

30th March.—On quitting Jehrúm\* we proceeded along the plain and crossed some low hills,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles w. of the town. This brought us into a valley, through which we passed by a very rough road. At the 4th mile we crossed some mountains by a bad and difficult pass, called Gúdar Naal Shiken (the Destroyer of Horse-shoes), from whence Jehrúm bears  $75^{\circ}$ . A few minutes' labour brought us to the summit. These mountains extend n.w. and s.e.,

\* Distances and bearings.

$\frac{1}{2}$ mile	...	230°	pass; more fossils observed; enter Kazin.
1	„	240	
$\frac{1}{2}$ „	„	230	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile ... $180^{\circ}$ to a second descent over very rough ground.
$\frac{1}{4}$ „	„	250	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile ... $155^{\circ}$
$\frac{1}{4}$ „	„	250 cross low hills.	„ „ $180$
$\frac{1}{4}$ „	„	250	$\frac{1}{3}$ „ „ $230$
$\frac{1}{8}$ „	„	300	$\frac{2}{3}$ „ „ $250$
$\frac{1}{4}$ „	„	290	$\frac{1}{8}$ „ „ $215$ through narrow rough valley.
$\frac{1}{8}$ „	„	310	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile ... $180^{\circ}$
$\frac{1}{2}$ „	„	255 through rough valley.	$\frac{1}{4}$ „ „ $135$
$\frac{1}{4}$ „	„	280	$\frac{1}{4}$ „ „ $120$
$\frac{3}{4}$ „	„	250 ascending over mountains, and difficult pass to summit of ascent.	$\frac{1}{3}$ „ „ $210$ and $254^{\circ}$ by exceedingly bad road.
$1\frac{1}{2}$ mile	...	$235^{\circ}$ descent through broad valley; numerous fossils strewing the ground.	$\frac{3}{4}$ mile ... $295^{\circ}$ here fossilized rock.
1 mile	...	$260^{\circ}$ still descending through above valley, which terminated in a country of low hills and valleys.	$\frac{1}{8}$ „ „ $275$
1 „	„	255	$\frac{1}{2}$ „ „ $180$
$\frac{1}{4}$ „	„	215	$\frac{1}{4}$ „ „ $130$ thus far descending.
$\frac{1}{2}$ „	„	220	$\frac{1}{4}$ „ „ $225$ ascent over bare rock.
$\frac{1}{8}$ „	„	190	$\frac{1}{4}$ „ „ $190$
$\frac{3}{4}$ „	„	215	$\frac{2}{3}$ „ „ $170$ by descent towards plain of Múbarekabad.
$\frac{3}{4}$ „	„	225	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile ... $210^{\circ}$ along plain.
$\frac{1}{8}$ „	„	205	$\frac{1}{8}$ „ „ $225$
$\frac{1}{8}$ „	„	225	1 „ „ $215$
$\frac{1}{8}$ „	„	240 to the pass of Kassettú.	$\frac{1}{2}$ „ „ $290$ to Múbarekabad.
$\frac{3}{4}$ „	„	240 descending the above	—
			18 miles.

and  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of a mile N. of them is a parallel range ; but neither is of great height. In descending on the other side I observed numerous fossils of thick oval shells, about the size of the hand, strewing the ground ; further down were thick oyster-shells, scalloped bivalves, and a few sponges, all fossilized. The descent led us through a broad valley, which finally terminated in a country of low hills and valleys. The 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  mile brought us to another pass, called Kassettú, which led us by a descent into the district of Kazin. More fossils are observed in this district. One mile further brought us to a second descent, over very rough ground, and we entered a narrow rough valley over the worst piece of road I have ever encountered ; our horses, though led, were scarcely able to maintain their footing, and plunged violently. I observed at this part a curious formation of fossilized organic rock, seemingly composed of a bed of polipi, in thickness rather less than the little finger. At the 16th mile we descended towards the small but pretty vale of Múbarekabad, extending E. and w., and generally covered with green turf, and bushes principally of the kunar. It is several miles in length, but of inconsiderable width, probably not more than 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. On reaching it very heavy rain set in, and continued until we reached Mubarekabad to discover that the place was utterly abandoned, not a soul remaining in it, the villagers having deserted it in a body at sight of a cannon lately brought across the hills for the service of the Eel Begghi. They probably feared being impressed to drag this gun, or being exposed to other violence from the followers of the great man. Their houses, some few articles of provisions, and their green crops, were all deserted, to be appropriated by every passer-by. We caught three men belonging to a karagúzlú encampment, and hearing from them that Múbarekabad swarmed with fleas of unusual dimensions, this and its deserted state led me to comply with their suggestion of proceeding to their tents at some distance to the east, and we were conducted from encampment to encampment ere we procured shelter in part of a tent reluctantly yielded up to us. The heavy rain which was falling made us glad to procure the imperfect shelter of this tent, which, like all Eeliat habitations of the kind, was of black goats' hair, so coarse in texture and so full of apertures, that not only a shower of mist penetrates, but the water streams in at the roof. The women busied themselves in digging a trench around the tent to prevent its being swamped, and I sat wet through for two or three hours in considerable anxiety as to the fate of my baggage, to intercept which I had despatched people in several directions, but could obtain no tidings of it ; I therefore determined on returning to the village in search of it. The weather had cleared up in some measure, and vivid flashes of lightning enabled us to pick our way through the darkness along the plain.

On approaching the village, a shrill whistle was heard as if proceeding from a small grove of palms near it, and as we had heard no shouts in reply to the firing we had kept up along the way, I conceived that perhaps we were waylaid. We put ourselves in readiness to receive and repel an attack ; but reaching the village, had the satisfaction to find baggage and people safely housed there. I passed the rest of the night on the housetop.

On the 31st March we continued our way along the vale, which extends on a bearing of  $290^{\circ}$ , and at this season affords excellent pasturage.\* The flocks I observed in this part of the country belonged to the tribes, and were mostly of sheep and lambs, with a greater proportion of white fleeces than in other parts I had lately visited. The goats, however, were usually black or brown. Towards the 6th mile the valley had shrunk to about half a mile in breadth. We occasionally passed a few black tents of the Cashghau tribe, and, at the above-mentioned distance, passed the small village Gherghaoun, 1 mile to our left, inhabited by a race called Kúlú, who, I was told, are descendants of negroes. The 12th mile led us to Alliabad, a ruinous village containing only five or six families, and an imamzadeh of Sheikh Rustum, the brother of Shah Cheragh, a miserable-looking mud building. The

\* Distances and bearings.

$\frac{1}{2}$ mile	260°	$\frac{3}{4}$ mile	290°
1 " "	270	2 " "	320 to river.
$1\frac{1}{2}$ " "	280	2 " "	305
1 " "	285	2 " "	320
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	265	2 " "	350
$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	280	2 " "	300
$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	300	2 " "	350 to bank of do.
$\frac{3}{4}$ " "	305	2 " "	280 parallel with above
$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	270	river; here we passed village of	Líferjan.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	320	$\frac{3}{4}$ mile	270°
$\frac{1}{8}$ " "	N.	$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	250 skirting hills.
$1\frac{1}{2}$ " "	300	$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	230 to date grove.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	N.W.	$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	215 to village Pedan.
$\frac{3}{4}$ " "	295	$\frac{1}{3}$ " "	245 to Kaleh Kúlú Kel-
$\frac{1}{8}$ " "	305	lahi.	
$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	295	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile	290°
$\frac{3}{4}$ " "	275	$\frac{1}{3}$ " "	265
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	295	$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	270
$\frac{1}{8}$ " "	310	$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	280
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	295	$1\frac{1}{4}$ " "	280
$\frac{3}{4}$ " "	285 near to Gherghaoun.	$\frac{1}{3}$ " "	255 to palm grove.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	315	$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	255 to Segdawan.
$\frac{1}{8}$ " "	310 to Alliabad.	$\frac{2}{3}$ " "	190 to camp of Eel
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	310	Begghi.	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	345	—	
$\frac{1}{8}$ " "	300	227 miles.	

13½ mile brought us to a river, flowing n. and s. for a short space, about 100 yards in breadth, and in parts nearly up to the horses' girths. This stream, known near its source as Karaghadj, flows to Siakh, Kewar, and Khafr, where streams from Jehrúm and Simkau join it, and thence it pursues its way to Kir and Kazin, and Dizzar of Gheledar, where a stream from Firúzabad enters it, after which it falls into the Persian Gulf between Kenghan and Assalú. It is variously named, being called successively after each district it passes through.

From this point I obtained some bearings:—

The district of Afzer lies 3 fursacks off on a bearing of 240°. It joins that of Bidshehr, situated nearly S. of this and Joysum still further south, all these lying behind a high range of mountains bounding this plain in that direction.

Village Púsh Ass .. ..	1½	mile distant ..	220°	All possessing groves of palms.
” Karzin .. ..	2	” ..	265	
” Vijeshkh .. ..	1½	” ..	240	
” Liferjan .. ..	2	” ..	300	

After fording the river, we presently came again to its right bank by a bend it had taken, and proceeded near and parallel to it, but with a high ridge of rocks between it and us for about two miles, when we passed the remains of a fort in those rocks, called Perr Aly, and the village Liferjan. The rock is here pierced in two parts to admit of the water of the river being drawn off for irrigation. Thence we skirted the hills on our right for three-fourths of a mile, which brought us to the village Pedam, with its beautiful groves of palm, orange, and lemon trees, in which nightingales and other birds were singing in charming chorus, and the air was perfumed with the sweet blossoms of orange groves. The village, as usual, was a ruinous collection of hovels. This part of the plain is extensively cultivated, and has a very pleasing appearance with its fields and groves. The 18½ mile brought us to the groves and ruined village of Kaled Kálú Kellahi, near which rises a remarkable-looking rock; then passing more groves we reached, at about the 20th mile, the village Kúrshú, partly in ruin, but possessing also extensive plantations, and half a mile beyond the village of Segdawan. Thence we made about two-thirds of a mile to the camp of the Eel Begghi, near which I was met by his nephew and a numerous party of horsemen. The camp was pitched amidst a grove of palm-trees, and here I was kindly welcomed by the chief, whose name is Mohamed Kady Khan, a brother of my friend the Eel Khaní of Fars, a very well-bred and extremely kind and hospitable person. I found him engaged in besieging the small fort of Purghan, situated on a mound, and one of the strongest places of the kind in this vicinity. It has been held for many years by the family of Kerrim Khan, a súnie chief of Bidshehr, at present

in rebellion, and it is the place where the former Eel Begghi, brother of the present one, was treacherously murdered about 22 years before by order of the firman, Fermah Hussein Aly Mirza. He was ordered to meet another officer, named, I think, Baba Khan, under pretext of concerting measures for the reduction of Lar. Baba Khan paid him a visit, which unsuspectingly he returned with about 30 attendants only. When in the fort he was told that an order for his arrest had arrived, upon which he drew his dagger and gallantly fought his way through his opponents, wounding or killing several; but on attempting to leave the fort he received three gun-shot wounds and was presently secured, but died of the injuries he received. His brother spoke of him in terms of high praise and admiration. He appears to have been a splendid fellow, of athletic make, and greatly esteemed for his gallantry. Kerrim Khan's tribe assisted in his capture, and, being summoned by the Prince Governor of Fars to surrender their fort to the present Eel Begghi, they were apprehensive of the latter retaliating on them the murder of his brother. The garrison of this small place consisted of about 120 musketeers, and, as they were well supplied with ammunition and provisions, the reduction of the place by such a force as the Eel Begghi's was doubtful. That force consisted of some 2000 men of his tribe and one gun (a 12-pounder); but he had but a scanty proportion of ammunition, half of which he had already expended in battering one of the towers to very little purpose, and when I arrived he had entered into negotiations with the defenders. The eastern ground on which the fort stands is encircled by a dry ditch: the walls and towers were in good condition, and believed to be rendered doubly strong by having embankments of earth raised against the former within, and cramming the latter with the same material. The Eel Begghi consulted me as to the mode of reducing this fort. I recommended his mining it, seeing the immense strength of the walls and the little effect his firing had produced on them, and he immediately took measures to effect this. I may also mention that the gateway of the fort having a small square building inside, the latter had also been filled with earth so that shot would produce little effect on it.

The Eel Begghi's camp was composed chiefly of canvas tents, and he himself occupied a handsome one and was surrounded by his dependents, amongst whom he is a little sovereign; still his rule is a patriarchal one, and he appeared to be highly popular.

The plain of Kir and Karzin has a pleasant appearance, owing to the turf with which it is clothed and its numerous palm groves. It possesses 23 villages, and is an intensely warm district in sum-

mer, and then forsaken by the tribes, though its other inhabitants remain in the villages, suffering, however, greatly from the swarms of flies which infest the country, and from sore eyes. The produce is barley and wheat, rice, tobacco, sesamè seed, and excellent dates. The dooraj or francolin abound on the plain. The village Kir is situated at three-fourths of a mile n.w. of the spot on which the Eel Begghi's tent was pitched. The district of Simkan lies n.e.; its chief village, Dúzeh, being at 6 fursacks from Kir. That of Gheledar, near the Gulf, is 30 fursacks s.s.w. of Kir. The partridge\* Jirúpti is found there.

The Kashghai and Khalij tribes, both of Turkish origin and residing together, are those over which the Eel Begghi's family have held an hereditary authority for some generations past. The former is in about 30 principal divisions and numerous subdivisions; the Khalig are in 7 principal divisions. These two tribes yield to the state about 10,000 tomans (4500l.). Their numbers are too variously estimated for me to form a decided opinion on the subject. The Eel Khani and Eel Begghi reckoned them at 5000 to 6000, and I should doubt the truth of any very high valuation of their numbers from what I saw of them in my wanderings. The Eel Begghi stated the Kashghais to be the descendants of a race transplanted by Húlakú from Kashgar, in Tartary. The wealth of this tribe is in sheep and goats, horned cattle, horses, and asses; but they possess few camels. The wool of the sheep and goats is all required for the use of the tribe, who work it up into articles of clothing, camp-equipage, horse-coverings, and carpets. A small portion of it is of fine white; but perhaps half that produced by the sheep is of a dirty white. The goats are chiefly black or red. Some of the sheep are of remarkable size, frequently weighing, I was told, 18 to 20 muns of 720 miscals = 130 to 144 lbs.

The other tribes of Fars, the Arab, Baserri, Nepper, Bahaslú, Aynarlú, and Chehardeh Chehrik, are also under the Eel Begghi's authority, and yield 13,000 tomans as revenue to government. They are all considerable tribes, and, like the others, split into many small divisions.

The Eel Begghi assured me the whole of the tribes of Fars do not exceed 20,000 to 22,000 families, exclusive of the Mamsenni, whom he reckoned at 2000 families.

Of tribes on the confines of Fars he estimated the Bakhteari at 30,000 families, and the Feyli or Lour Búzourk at 100,000 families—both probably exaggerated accounts.

The tribes in these countries appear to be generally composed in great part of very poor families. They pay so little attention

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\* *Perdix Pondicerianus.*

to agriculture, that after their own immediate wants are supplied, the produce derived from their flocks and herds remaining over will not keep them out of poverty, and much of it is absorbed by government taxes and the impositions of their chiefs. With all this they prefer their free condition to the more easy existence in towns.

The tribes are rarely seen in any large body in one spot ; the scarcity of pasturage obliges them to separate into small encampments of from 5 to 50 tents ; rarely in hundreds. They occupy the plains, valleys, and ravines of the skirts of hills, and are thus scattered over the face of the country, each little community living independently of the rest. In the cold season they spread themselves over the Ghermsir.

Talking with the chief respecting Europe, he expressed surprise that we should possess no Eeliats or tented tribes, and remarked that, of course, there could be few sheep or oxen in such countries. Referring to a book, I told him that in England there were 60 millions of sheep and 33 millions of horned cattle. This set him and others present calculating the number of sheep amongst the tribes, which they seemed to think would not exceed half a million.

I had heard before, and the information was here confirmed, that inoculation has been known amongst the tribes of Fars for centuries. The operation is performed on children at the wrist, and unless the pock makes its appearance in a general eruption over the body, it is not considered effective, and the operation is repeated. When thus induced, the disease is said to leave no mark. The cow-pock is, however, unknown amongst the tribes.

The besieged came to terms on the 2nd April, and sent in two hostages. They were to give up the fort and all their ammunition, and were to be allowed to retire unmolested. My presence innocently enough led to this result ; for one of the Eel Begghi's people, having been sent to parley, assured them that an English Sahib Munsub, who had arrived, had just been showing his master how to take the fort in two hours, upon which they came to terms. In the evening I rode down with the chief to the battery of one gun (an English 12-pounder), within a very short distance of the place, and although we were completely exposed for some time to the enemy, who crowded on the walls, they were so obliging as not to fire on us.

After I had quitted the camp I learnt, however, that the garrison had broken faith with my friend, and that he had recommenced the siege, but had been ordered by the Governor of Fars to desist.

On the 3rd April I quitted the camp of my polite and kind friend, who sent me some horses, begging me to select one for my

own riding. I then proceeded to the village Kir,\* and thence over stony ground, the plain lessening as we advanced westward, and may be said to terminate at about the  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mile west of Kir. We then ascended between parallel ranges of hills for about 4 miles; then descending about 2 miles by an execrable road through a valley, entered a partly-cultivated vale, possessing palm groves, a little stream, and a growth of reeds, &c. The  $12\frac{1}{2}$  mile brought us to the village Bagh Pesserler, then deserted. Presently after we crossed hills and undulating country, more or less clothed with bushes and a sprinkling of the benneh tree. At about the 20th mile we ascended through a pretty vale, in which there was abundant pasture, and consequently numerous scattered encampments of Eeliats. The little hamlet of Babonej, with garden-land attached, occurred at the 25th mile. Close by was a high mound, on which stands a stone octagonal tower and another hamlet, with date groves, scattered winter-houses, and extensive stabling, all belonging to the Eel Begghi, who resorts to this spot in the cool weather. One and a half mile over low hills brought us into another small rough plain, in which we found an encampment of the Eel Khame's family, consisting of a few black tents and one of canvas; but on arriving there the people seemed not to have expected us, and as they made some demur to our expressed wish for quarters, I passed on, hoping to find shelter from a broiling sun in some other encampment; but this effort also failed, and there being no other habitation near, we turned back to Babonej and made ourselves at home in an empty house there. Here we could obtain nothing in the way of provisions excepting some green barley for our horses.

This vale belongs to the district of Eebek-eh (or the Four), so named from its having originally possessed 4 villages, though now there would appear to be 9, namely: Hangum, Búlasker, Punj Shir, Rúdbal, Borrazghan, Ser Túl, Deh Rem, Babonej hamlet, Dehrúd. The district is of considerable extent and very mountainous.

\* *Distances and bearings.*

1 mile...	315° to Kir.	1 mile...	280
$\frac{3}{4}$ " "	285	1 "	290
$\frac{1}{8}$ " "	320	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "	300
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	305	$\frac{1}{2}$ "	270
$\frac{1}{8}$ " "	270	2 "	290
$1\frac{1}{2}$ " "	280	$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	300
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	270	$1\frac{1}{4}$ " "	270
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " "	275 plain terminates.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ " "	280 ascend through a
3 " "	280 ascending between parallel ranges of hills.	$\frac{1}{2}$ mile	270° pretty vale.
1 mile...	295°	$\frac{3}{4}$ " "	275
1 " "	295 by descent.	$\frac{1}{2}$ " "	300
$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	190	$\frac{1}{4}$ " "	280 to Babonej.
$\frac{3}{4}$ " "	230 enter valley.		
$\frac{1}{3}$ " "	270 to Bagh Pesserler.		25 miles.

4th April.—We were off this morning ere the day had well opened.\* At the end of the 2nd mile we ascended through hills by

\* Distances and bearings.

$\frac{1}{4}$ mile .. ..	330°	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile .. ..	300°
$\frac{3}{4}$ " .. ..	300	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	285
$\frac{4}{3}$ " .. ..	340	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. ..	290
$\frac{4}{3}$ " .. ..	340	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. ..	310
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	"	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. ..	290
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	330	$\frac{1}{6}$ " .. ..	310
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	290	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	285
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	270	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	320
$\frac{4}{3}$ " .. ..	325	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	N.
Ascend over mountains in general direction N.E. for		$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	305
3 miles.		$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	280
$\frac{1}{2}$ mile, between N.E. and N., descending.		$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	300
$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. ..	340°	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	340
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	30	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. ..	285
1 " .. ..	320	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	285
2 " .. ..	350	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	300
$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. ..	90	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	290
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	N.	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	210
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	90	$\frac{2}{3}$ " .. ..	290 to a little ravine full of trees.
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	135	$\frac{1}{6}$ mile .. .. 60° through a remarkable mountain pass.	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	30	$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. .. 90°	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	110	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 25	
$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. ..	10	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 350	
$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. ..	70	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 330	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	340	$\frac{1}{6}$ " .. .. N.	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	135	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 45	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	N.	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 90	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	135	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 45 to N., and enter vale of Tidesht.	
2 " .. ..	340 to foot of descent.	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile .. .. 350°	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	45	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 340	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	90	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 330	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	45	$\frac{1}{6}$ " .. .. 320	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	315	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. .. 300	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	315	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 305	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	290 descending into vale through which the Firúzabad river flows southward.	1 " .. .. 295	
$\frac{1}{6}$ mile .. ..	300°	1 " .. .. 300	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	285	$\frac{3}{4}$ " .. .. 295	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	296	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 315	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	310	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 330	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	290	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 320	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	310	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. .. 320	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	285	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. .. 320	across plain of
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	320	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. .. 330	Firúzabad.
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	N.	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. .. 310	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	45	$\frac{1}{6}$ " .. .. 305	
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. ..	90	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. .. 330	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	45	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. .. 320 to Firúzabad.	
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	315		
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	315		
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. ..	290		
<hr/>		29 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles.	

a stony hard road ; and towards the 3rd mile commenced a great ascent over mountains, the road varying so much as between N. and S.E., but extending in a general direction of N.E. across the hills for a distance of about 3 miles. This is a very difficult pass, the road leading generally over bare slippery rock, on which the cattle scarcely maintain a footing, and where ledges of rock crossing the path or steep rises and falls add to the difficulty. Here we overtook numerous small divisions of Eeliats, moving across with their cattle, flocks, and other property. The sheep and goats moved together in large flocks ; the asses, oxen, camels, dogs, and the men, women, and children, were all mixed up together ; the three last trudging on foot or occasionally mounted. Sometimes the children were intrusted with the care of young kids or lambs, which they carried in their arms ; others were strapped on the backs of the beasts, and seemed perfectly at their ease. The road was so encumbered with the tribes and their property that we were much delayed. In Persia it is considered unlucky to pass through a flock of sheep ; my people were always at infinite pains to avoid doing so, by shouting at and driving the flocks together and making circumbendibuses to get out of their way. Here, however, they were fairly puzzled from the narrowness of the path and the propensity of the sheep to spread, so that they presently gave up the attempt to pass them in despair.

We descended towards the end of the 6th mile. Close by our left was a broad and magnificent chasm, through which the Firúzabad stream flows southward ; the mountain split in twain by some great convulsion, leaving the sides of the gulf in some parts several hundred feet in perpendicular height, each projection of the one side having a corresponding cavity in the one opposite, so that were the rocks brought together again they would fit accurately the one into the other. The scenery, as we descended, increased in grandeur, and the path leading constantly over bare, slippery rock and dangerous inequalities made it frequently necessary to dismount. Towards the 11th mile we reached the termination of the descent, where the Firúzabad stream enters the deep chasm. This is a fine, clear rivulet, pretty at this part, and perhaps 30 paces wide, and is here joined by a streamlet from the N.W. We breakfasted at this spot, and watched the Eeliats as they gradually descended the heights. Such journeys across difficult passes in heat or cold, and over tracts sometimes destitute of water, must, one would suppose, be too much for the aged and infirm, and must frequently hasten dissolution. I observed several aged people of the tribes being taken across who appeared to possess barely strength enough to maintain their seat, and some were stretched on the ground to rest, their sons or daughters roughly though dutifully affording them assistance and attend-

ance. I had seen nothing yet amongst the females of the tribes approaching to good looks, and they are usually disfigured by the filth and rags in which they are clad. There is nothing feminine in their appearance, and it is said that any one of them is as good as a man in a fight. They certainly sometimes possess lungs which would do credit to a Stentor.

All the country we had passed thus far to-day was more or less sprinkled with bushes, amongst which the wild almond was conspicuous.

We made a slight ascent, and then got into the vale through which the stream flows and ascended by it. The hills on our left, having a northerly aspect, were slightly dotted with green turf; this and the vale itself, which is under cultivation, and the bushes along the stream, rendered the ride a very pleasant one. The 20th mile brought us to a small ravine full of trees and myrtle-bushes, close to which is the small village of Rúdbal, one of the Eebek-eh. We then proceeded through a fine and very remarkable mountain-pass, some 250 yards in breadth, the rocks on either side rising to an elevation probably of 500 feet, and, for the most part, nearly perpendicular. This led into the vale of Tidesht, at the  $22\frac{1}{2}$  mile. It is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 miles in breadth, runs from N.W. to S.E., and is for the most part under cultivation. The district of Meymen lay between N. and N.E. of this, beyond high mountains. The vale is interrupted towards its north-western extremity by a line of hills running a short distance through its centre longitudinally; and at the  $27\frac{1}{2}$  mile, we came abreast of a high rock, rising at the extremity of the vale, to the N.E. of which, at a mile distant, is the small village of Tidesht, lying under the hills. We then made about 2 miles across the plain of Firúzabad, extending N.E. and S.W., a well-cultivated tract of light soil, very free from stone, and reached the cassabeh of the above name, where I was again welcomed by my friend the Eel Khani, who had lately arrived from Shiráz. Firúzabad contains 350 houses, and is surrounded by the remains of a ditch and wall. The Eel Begghi, whose property it is, has a good house and extensive garden here, in which I was accommodated.

At about 2 miles from Firúzabad, in a bearing of  $290^\circ$ , is a site known as the Kaleh Firúzabad, evidently that of a considerable town, its ditch and embankments forming a wide circle, the diameter of which may be about 2400 paces, or nearly a mile. The ditch is 40 or 50 paces wide. In the centre of the area stands a tall, solid square tower, composed of rough stone masonry, 60 or 70 feet in height. It was probably intended as a watch-tower, and appears to have had, on its western side, some other structure attached to it. The only other object of interest on this spot are the remains of a square building which has been

composed of large piles of hewn stone at its four corners, all unconnected, excepting probably by a roof, which is now wanting ; each stone is of large dimensions, and has been secured by clamps which have disappeared. This was probably a place of worship. The rest of the area is strewn with mounds, and the remains of stone buildings, and was then partly occupied by green crops of grain. Macdonald Kinneir has greatly exaggerated the size of this ancient site by stating the ditch to be 7 miles in circuit, whereas it cannot be more than 3.

From the square building I obtained the following bearings :—

Firúzabad	..	..	..	110°, about 2 miles distant.
Village Deh Shehr	..	..	20	„ $\frac{1}{4}$ „
„ Bagh Shah	..	..	110	„ $1\frac{1}{2}$ „
„ Ser Meydan	..	..	65	„ 1 „
„ Ahmedabad	..	..	W.	„ $1\frac{1}{2}$ „
„ Kilisian	..	..	310°	„ 1 „
„ Deh Berm	..	..	290	„ $1\frac{1}{2}$ „
„ Harún	..	..	235	„ $2\frac{1}{2}$ „
„ Mehmedabad	..	..	135	„ $2\frac{1}{2}$ „

The district of Firúzabad is said to contain only 700 families and to be two fursacks in extent each way. Some Jews are found here.

The Eel Kkani informed me that here, and in Fars generally, the terms on which land is held are these :—

Land, the private property of the erbab (lord or farmer) is cultivated at his sole expense, the labourers receiving, in lieu of wages, one-fifth of the produce ; out of the remainder the lord of the land accounts to Government for one-third as tax.

When the labourer furnishes seed, plough, and labour, he receives one-third, the Government one-third, and the landowner one-third of the produce.

On crown lands the Government takes two parts of the produce, but furnishes seed and ploughs ; the labourer gets the remainder.

When the land belongs to the rayat or peasant, he cultivates it, giving one part of the produce to Government and keeping two parts for himself.

There are some variations in the above rule, however, according to the relative positions of lord and peasant.

On this plain the land, which appears poor, is not manured, and yields from 3 to 10-fold ; the average 6-fold.

From Firúzabad to Bushire, by Ferashbund, is a distance of about 35 fursacks, or 105 miles ; by Kazeran 62 fursacks, or 186 miles.

I was detained at Firúzabad longer than I had contemplated on account of the state of my horses after the last trying stage.

My best horse had gone dead lame, a second too lame to be ridden, and all of them had their shoes so injured by the rough road as to require fresh shoeing—a work of time at this village, where it had to be done to order. I quitted the place, however, on the 6th of April, and never saw my kind friend the Eel Khani again: he died shortly afterwards, and was succeeded in his office by his brother the Eel Begghi. My road led me on the bearings as in the margin.\* The 3rd mile brought us to the defile called the Teng-ab, down which flows the stream watering this plain, and through which the road to Shiráz leads. It is a rocky and rather fine pass, and at about a mile from its entrance is found a tablet of ancient sculpture, situated high up on the face of the rock; it is reached with difficulty, owing to the perpendicular nature of the ascent. Here I found my poor friend Tasker's name engraved on it, and added my own.

The sculptures are of colossal size, and represent two royal personages meeting, and each clasping with one hand a ring; to the ring a flamer is attached, which falls down over a fire-altar of small dimensions, and between the two is a much-defaced Pehlevi inscription, the right-hand side of which I endeavoured to copy.

The left-hand figure in the tablet wears a beard, wig, crown, and royal flamer; the crown resembles a high glazier's cap in shape, wider at top than at bottom, and flat on the sides. The figure holds in one hand a long staff; he has no attendant.

The right-hand figure, evidently the chief personage, wears the large globe on his head, as seen at Nakhsh-e-Rústum, &c.; has a beard, but no wig or hair visible; his left arm is raised, as though in menace. A figure behind him holds over his head a flyflap; has no wig, but wears on his head something very like a Grecian helmet. Three other figures are seen successively behind the last, all with beards and wigs. Thus there are six figures, all on foot.

This tablet is not of highly-wrought sculpture. Near it are the

\* Distances and bearings.

$\frac{3}{4}$ mile . . . . . 335° to Ser Meydan.	1 mile return to entrance of pass.
$\frac{4}{5}$ " . . . . . 330	$\frac{1}{4}$ " from entrance of pass, in direction s.w., to the Attesh Kuddah.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " . . . . . 310	$\frac{3}{4}$ mile s. to village Ghilak.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " . . . . . 340	$\frac{1}{6}$ " . . . . . s.w.
$\frac{1}{5}$ " . . . . . 325	$\frac{1}{6}$ " . . . . . 200°
$\frac{1}{4}$ " . . . . . 335	$\frac{1}{8}$ " . . . . . 260
$\frac{1}{4}$ " . . . . . 350 and through hills.	$\frac{4}{5}$ " . . . . . s.w. to Kilissian.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " . . . . . 335 to corner of plain and defile of Turgab.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ " . . . . . s.w. to Ahmedabad.
1 mile N., and 310° to sculptures.	<hr/> 8½ miles.

remains of a stone bridge, and at some little distance lower down the stream a road leads up the side of the valley over slippery rock, which has therefore in one part been cut into steps.

We descended the valley again to examine the remains of the Atesh Gar, or Atesh Kuddeh (Fire-Temple), situated a quarter of a mile s.w. of the entrance to the defile. The tower at Kaleh Firúzabad bears from thence  $185^{\circ}$ , and Firúzabad  $155^{\circ}$ . The temple is a vast pile of masonry, composed of walls sometimes of immense solidity, one I measured being about 16 feet thick. Numerous chambers of various sizes have composed the interior, of which three exist with their vaulted roofs, and towards the southern end is a large hall. The walls around the chambers have recesses, with semicircular arches. The plaster and cornices are in many places perfect, but there are no visible remains of altars to denote that this building has ever been what it is reputed to be by the Persians. On the northern side a pond of clear water is formed by a spring rising from its centre.

From the Atesh Kuddeh we proceeded three-quarters of a mile s. to Ghilek, then to the village Kilissian and Ahmedabad, where I bivouacked under the shade of two large sour orange-trees, the stems of which being united, they are called Leili and Mejnún, after the two celebrated lovers in Persian romance. The villages of this plain are generally embosomed in groves of fruit and other trees, but few palms are seen amongst them.

7th April.—From Ahmedabad\* we continued along the plain, a

\* Distances and bearings.

$\frac{3}{4}$ mile .. .. 285°		$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. .. 285°	
1   , .. .. 275		$\frac{1}{3}$ , .. .. 235	descending.
$\frac{1}{8}$ , .. .. 285		$\frac{1}{2}$ , .. .. 250	
$\frac{1}{8}$ , .. .. 275		1   , .. .. 270	
$\frac{1}{4}$ , .. .. 280	Along the plain of Firúzabad.	$\frac{2}{3}$ , .. .. 270	
$1\frac{1}{2}$ , .. .. 270		$\frac{3}{4}$ , .. .. 240	
$\frac{1}{2}$ , .. .. 275		$\frac{1}{2}$ , .. .. 265	through vale.
$1\frac{1}{4}$ , .. .. 245		2   , .. .. 370	
$2\frac{1}{2}$ , .. .. 255		$\frac{1}{8}$ , .. .. 315	
1   , .. .. 270		1   , .. .. 290	over hills.
$\frac{1}{8}$ , .. .. 315		$\frac{3}{4}$ , .. .. 300	descending.
$\frac{1}{8}$ , .. .. 225		$\frac{1}{8}$ , .. .. 250	
$\frac{1}{2}$ , .. .. 215	ascend over hills co- vered with bushes.	$\frac{1}{4}$ , .. .. 280°	
$\frac{1}{6}$ , .. .. 150		$\frac{1}{2}$ , .. .. 275	
$\frac{1}{3}$ , .. .. 230		$\frac{1}{8}$ , .. .. 180	
$\frac{1}{4}$ , .. .. 260		$\frac{1}{2}$ , .. .. 250	through defile.
$\frac{3}{8}$ , .. .. 240		$\frac{1}{4}$ , .. .. 200	alight to breakfast
$\frac{1}{8}$ mile .. .. 320 by steep and bad descent.		near caravansarai and spring of water.	
$\frac{3}{4}$ mile .. .. 270° general direction by windings.		20 $\frac{1}{4}$	Carried forward.

fine tract of turf where not cultivated, as is the case at its western extremity, affording pasturage to sheep and goats, of which I observed, in the space of less than a mile, no less than 15 large flocks, belonging principally to the tribes; among them, however, few purely white fleeces were observed. At the 8th mile we ascended, by a pleasant road, through hills covered with almond and other bushes and a sprinkling of trees. We encountered numbers of Cashghais shifting their quarters, their beasts of burden being chiefly horned cattle, but they had plenty of mares and colts with them. The 10½ mile brought us to a steep and bad descent through a fine pass, very rough and rocky. This opened, towards the 14th mile, into a vale running N.W. and S.E., of which the surface was uneven, stony, and perfectly arid. At the 18th mile we again ascended hills, after crossing which we entered a defile, and alighted to breakfast at the 20th mile, near a building used as a caravansarai; from thence our path led down the defile about half a mile, when we descended hills for about 2 miles, where the road is strewed with fossils of the oyster, scollop bivalve, and cockle-shells; on one side of the road they were thickly embedded in the soil. Thus far the road had been most difficult, at every five hundred paces leading over rocky, and, to the horses, dangerous, parts. At the 24½ mile we crossed a vale running N.W. and S.E., three-quarters of a mile to the opposite side, when we again descended over very rocky and difficult ground into a recess of the plain of Ferashbund at the 26½ mile, the path continuing over very rough ground. This recess of the plain is about 1½ mile broad, very stony, but with plenty of grass and bushes. We reached the village Ferashbund at the end of

20½ miles brought forward.	
½ mile .. . . . s.w. down defile.	½ mile .. . . . 255°
½ " .. . . . s.	½ " .. . . . s.
½ " .. . . . 150	½ " .. . . . 210 across vale running N.W. and S.E.
1½ " .. . . . S.E.	¾ mile .. . . . 235° to opposite side of vale.
½ " .. . . . 200 descending hills.	¾ mile .. . . . 340° by rough descent.
½ " .. . . . 150	½ " .. . . . 270 into plain of Ferash- bund.
½ " .. . . . 200	2 miles .. . . . 265°
¾ " .. . . . 225	1½ " .. . . . 270
¾ " .. . . . 245	2 " .. . . . 290 hills on left receding.
½ " .. . . . S.W.	½ " .. . . . 260 off direct road to some tents.
½ " .. . . . 250	¾ mile .. . . . 320° again into high road; hills on right ¼ mile distant.
½ " .. . . . 240	4 miles .. . . . 315°
½ " .. . . . 270	1½ " .. . . . 355 to Ferashbund.
½ " .. . . . 290	
½ " .. . . . 240	
½ " .. . . . 270 here the road strewed with fossil shells.	
¼ mile .. . . . S.E.	38½ miles.
½ " .. . . . s.	

38 miles, according to my reckoning ; the distance from Firúzabad is reckoned at only 9 fursacks, and from Ahmedabad about 3 miles less. This village is embosomed in palm-groves. The people, on our arrival, were indisposed to give us quarters ; their zabit declared there was no available accommodation excepting in a filthy stable-yard. This conduct I resented, and a good deal of squabbling ensued ; the villagers collected round their zabit with fire-arms and long heavy-headed bludgeons, and when it was considered there had been a sufficient expenditure of breath in our contest of words, very tolerable quarters were provided.

The plain of Ferashbund, like so many other plains and valleys in Fars, runs in a direction n.w. and s.e., and is said to be about 8 fursacks in length by 1 in breadth. Its soil is generally very free from stones, and its surface extensively cultivated. It is a fine tract, but so ill-watered as to depend for moisture almost wholly on rain. This being uncertain, the produce of the fields varies greatly : wheat and barley seem to be alone raised. The land is never manured or left fallow, but, when new spots are cultivated, the produce is said to be as high as 30 or 40-fold, though in ordinary cases, on old ground, it would be only 10 or 12-fold. The locust was everywhere ravaging this part of the country, and the plain—which as far as the eye could reach was one unbroken carpet of verdure—would, it was to be feared, soon wear an aspect of desolation. The people said the locust had been the pest of the country for ages, and though occasionally disappearing, the young ones after a while are again found swarming in certain parts of the plain.

There appear to be only five or six villages in this small district, which on the s. is bounded by Deshtí, and on the n.w. by Kúh Marreh. It was formerly a well-inhabited tract, and furnished a considerable military contingent, but from various causes —principally from the ravages of the locust—it has declined since the reign of Kerrim Khan, Zened.

8th April.—I observed here some ploughs which, as well as I could recollect, were precisely of the form of those occasionally seen on antiques and old coins in this country, and are entirely of wood.

We quitted Ferashbund\* in rain which soon fell so heavily that

\* *Distances and bearings.*

$\frac{3}{4}$ mile...	325°
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " "	350
$\frac{3}{4}$ " " "	325
$\frac{3}{4}$ " " "	315 to village Aviz.
$\frac{1}{6}$ " " "	N.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " "	330 to warm spring.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " "	330

$\frac{1}{4}$ mile...	310 to a second warm spring.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " "	335°
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " "	N.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " "	340 to village Gúmbed.

4} Carried forward.

the road was presently flooded, but the storm soon passed over. Ruins of villages extended for a long way close by at the foot of the hills to our right, and frequently old burying-grounds, with long narrow tombstones having Arabic epitaphs. Two and three-eighths miles brought us to the village Aviz, which consists of mud houses and keppahs, or long cylindrical-looking huts, built of branches, matting, and reeds. Proceeding onwards, we presently passed two warm springs, one of which was sulphurous, and the 5th mile brought us to the village Gúmbed, consisting of huts as above described. The road, which had hitherto skirted the hills to our right, now led us away from them, the cultivation on this plain giving way to grazing land sprinkled with kúnar bushes. About the 10th mile occurred a small stream, and half a mile further, we passed the eastern extremity of a line of low hills which cross the plain in a direction E. and w. At  $11\frac{1}{2}$  miles we passed through low hills extending from the eastward, and entered another plain belonging to the district Kúh Marreh, and extending E. and w. The village Khaniek, with its vast and probably artificial mound, bore, at the 13th mile,  $50^{\circ}$  about 1 mile distant. The 18th mile brought us to the village Nújain, which has also a large mound, and palm-trees, under which we breakfasted.

4½ miles brought forward.	1 mile ... 320°
½ " ... 345	½ " ... N. to Nújain.
½ " ... 315 leading away from hills.	½ " ... 60
1 mile ... 320°	½ " ... 20
½ " ... 330	½ " ... N.
½ " ... 340	½ " ... 40
½ " ... 355	½ " ... N.
½ " ... 335	½ " ... N. by ascent over hills in corner of plain.
½ " ... 350	½ mile ... N.W. descend through valley.
1½ " ... 10 to small stream.	½ mile ... 335°
½ " ... 10 pass eastern extremity of low hills, which cross the plain E. and w.	½ " ... 330
½ mile ... 10°	½ " ... N.W.
¾ " ... 340 presently by slight descent, and then through low hills extending from eastward, and enter another plain belonging to district of Kúh Marreh.	¾ " ... 315 enter the plain of Jirreh.
½ mile ... 345°	½ mile ... 335°
½ " ... N.	½ " ... 320 more hills on right.
¾ " ... 20 from hence the village Khaniek bore $50^{\circ}$ , 1 mile distant.	½ " ... N.
1 mile ... 345°	½ " ... 330
1 " ... 330	½ " ... 325
1½ " ... 325	½ " ... N.
¾ " ... 315	½ " ... 350
½ " ... 345	½ " ... 340
	½ " ... N.
	½ " ... N.E. to Ishforkan.
	24½ miles.

Near the low hills we had just before passed through I was told there are three villages, named Hassanabad, Veissabad, and Kanat-e-Bagh.

The plain we were traversing abounds with turf, and is little cultivated; its surface is sprinkled with the thorny kúnar bush. It extends s.e. to n.w., and is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles wide, and is well watered by small brooks. Descending through a valley for a couple of miles, we entered the plain of Jirreh, where the land is cultivated between the kúnar bushes, which also abound here. The road led near hills on our right, and brought us, at the end of the 25th mile, to the village Ishforkan, situated on the right bank of a small stream flowing n.w., amid groves and gardens of palms, pomegranates, and trees of the orange species, in which the nightingales were keeping up a loud chorus. The distance is reckoned at 7 fursacks. This is a very warm part of the country, snow is unknown in the plain; the thermometer stood at  $77^{\circ}$  at 6 P.M.

I was told that the district of Jirreh extends n. and s. about 7 fursacks, and e. and w. about four.

9th April.—From Ishforkan\* we proceeded about a mile to the

\* Distances and bearings.

$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. . . .	45°	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile .. . . .	N.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	N.W.	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. . . .	310°
$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. . . .	W.	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	N.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	315 to Hassanabad.	$\frac{3}{4}$ " .. . . .	325 to Robat.
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. . . .	295 skirting hills.	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	N.W.
$\frac{2}{3}$ " .. . . .	300	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	290
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	315	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	300
$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	305	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	280
$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	315 to broad bed of Rúd-khaneh Shirin flowing from Kúh Marrah.	$\frac{3}{4}$ " .. . . .	310
$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. . . .	270°	2 " .. . . .	315 to 330
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. . . .	260 to Balla Deh.	1 " .. . . .	315
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. . . .	320	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	300
$\frac{2}{3}$ " .. . . .	295	$\frac{1}{6}$ " .. . . .	325
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. . . .	315	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. . . .	300
$\frac{1}{5}$ " .. . . .	300	$\frac{2}{3}$ " .. . . .	315
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	280	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	300
$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. . . .	320	$\frac{1}{6}$ " .. . . .	320
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	310	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	310
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	320	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	335 over hills.
$\frac{1}{6}$ " .. . . .	N.W.	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	N.E. still ascending.
$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. . . .	320	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	N. came in sight of Lake of Famour.
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	295	$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. . . .	320° by descent.
1 " .. . . .	315	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. . . .	305
1 " .. . . .	320	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. . . .	310
$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. . . .	315	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. . . .	330 to the lake.
5 " .. . . .	325		
		28 $\frac{1}{2}$	Carried forward.

village of Hassanabad, skirting the hills. When at the third mile to the broad bed of a shallow stream, known as Rúd Khaneh Shirin, presently our path was lost in rice-grounds, which obliged us to make a short détour to the ruined village Ballah Deh, outside which the inhabitants were living under keppehs. A low line of hills separates the plain into two longitudinally towards its north-western extremity, leaving on one side a vale of some width. The 15th mile led to the village Robat, a collection of huts and hovels, near which are two neatly-built stone forts, occupied by the families of Shah Husseim and Shah Kúchek, two Seyeds, chiefs of the village, who, I was told, claim and obtain exemption from taxation in consideration of their descent.

Continuing up the vale, we ascended, at the 24th mile, over hills for 2 miles, when we came in sight of the Lake of Famour, a long narrow sheet of fresh water, stretching n.w. and s.e.; its south-eastern extremity was not visible on account of intervening rocks, but it extends to  $90^{\circ}$  from this point, and there is situated the village Famour. The furthest part of it visible from this spot on its south-eastern extremity was about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles distant, on a bearing of  $55^{\circ}$ . I should suppose it to be from half a mile to a mile in breadth; on its southern side it is very shallow, but is said to be beyond a man's depth towards the centre; the land on its southern side was entirely laid out in corn-fields. The lake occupies the northern side of a beautiful vale, bounded by lofty and rocky mountains on both hands, and is fed in its south-eastern extremity. We made a trifling descent, and thence to the margin of the water, then for a mile and a half parallel with it, on a bearing of  $310^{\circ}$ ; the water then trends to  $330^{\circ}$  for half a mile, when it terminates in marsh extending about half a mile to the n.w. At  $33\frac{1}{2}$  miles we passed the village Kúmúr Keshi, situated a mile to our right, and  $2\frac{1}{3}$  miles further brought us to the garden Bugh-e-Nú, where, overtaken by a thunder-storm, we took

28 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles brought forward.	
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " " 310 parallel with lake.	$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. 320 $^{\circ}$
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " 330	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. 330
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " 335	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. 325
$\frac{1}{6}$ " " 350	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. 340
$\frac{1}{3}$ " " 330	$\frac{1}{8}$ " .. 325 immediately afterwards pass ruins of fort Kalah Jinan.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " 310	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile .. 330 $^{\circ}$
$\frac{2}{3}$ " " 320	$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. 315
$\frac{1}{8}$ " " 310	$\frac{1}{4}$ " .. 325
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " 315	$\frac{1}{2}$ " .. 310 to Kazerún.
$\frac{1}{3}$ " .. 310 pass the village Kúmúr Keshi 1 mile to our right.	
$\frac{1}{2}$ mile .. 310 $^{\circ}$	<hr/> $37\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
2 " .. 315 to Garden Bagh Nú.	

shelter. At the 36th mile we passed the ruins of a fort called Kalah Jinan, touching on the road, and arrived at the town of Kazerún at the end of  $37\frac{1}{2}$  miles: the distance is accounted 8 fursacks.

This place is divided into an upper and lower town, and covers a considerable space. The population of the lower quarter had revolted against its governor, Abbass Kúly Khan, and had just killed five of his people and two of the inhabitants of the upper division; this has occasioned a blood-feud between the two quarters. A discharge of small arms was maintained on either side at night during my stay there.

The buildings here are of stone and mortar, and have an appearance of solidity and neatness which is wanting in mud habitations; they are also frequently stuccoed. Many of them are fortifications, possessing parapets and loopholes for musketeers. Barri-cades had been constructed on the roofs, and the marks of shot showed there had been fighting in some earnest. The inhabitants are a *lootie* set, like those of Shiráz.

The governor told me that Kazerún occupies more space than Jehrúm, but is less populous. He considered Jehrúm the second town in Fars. Perhaps from 1500 to 2000 families may be the population of Kazerún, but, excepting in its size, this place hardly deserves the name of a town, as it is, more properly speaking, a conjunction of two large villages, and possesses only about 100 miserable-looking shops. The situation is the north-western side of a well-cultivated vale, on a slight rise. Palms, walnut, and orange and lemon-trees are nearly the only verdure it possesses. There is nothing of interest to be seen in the place. The climate is warmer than that of Shiráz, but not oppressively so; and the inhabitants boast that it is so fine that fruits of the Ghermsir and Serdsir flourish side by side. Excellent opium is produced in the villages around; the white poppy, from which it is obtained, was in full bloom at the time of my visit. The price of the drug was 8 tomans, or about 72s. for  $10\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.

I shall not describe the remainder of my journey to Bushire by the high road, as this is sufficiently well known. At Bushire I embarked in an Arab boat, and, after a somewhat dangerous passage across the head of the Gulf to the mouth of the Shút-ul-Arab, I landed at Mohamrah, and passed a few days in the enjoyment of the society of Colonel Williams, the British Boundary Commissioner, and his large party. Here I was obligingly offered a passage to Baghdad by Captain Jones of the 'Nitocris,' H. E. I. C. war-steamer, and from Baghdad I returned to Teheran by way of Kermanshah and Hamadan, after a journey of nearly nine months.